

MINUTES
REGULAR WORKSESSION
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YUMA, ARIZONA
YUMA CITY HALL
ONE CITY PLAZA, YUMA, ARIZONA
March 16, 2010
5:10 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Krieger called the City Council meeting to order.

Councilmembers Present: Stuart, Mendoza, Beeson, McClendon, Brooks-Gurrola, Johnson and Mayor Krieger
Councilmembers Absent: none
Staffmembers Present: City Administrator, Mark Watson
Human Resource Director, Jack Dodd
Various department heads or their representatives
Brigitta M. Kuiper, City Clerk,

I. SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS

Watson informed the City Council that staff has been in continuous contact with Yuma Metropolitan Planning Organization and the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) lobbying to get portions of 4th Avenue and 32nd Street repaved prior to the City taking control; efforts are ongoing. Funding may be available if certain ADOT bids provide savings.

II. REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA OF MARCH 17, 2010

McClendon asked for a separate roll call vote on the Special Event Liquor License application submitted by the Yuma County Board of Supervisors, for their annual employee BBQ to be held at the Yuma Catholic High School athletic field on April 17, 2010.

III. YUMA COUNTY AIRPORT AUTHORITY

Craig Williams, Yuma County Airport (YCA) Director, briefed the City Council on the plans and operations of the YCA; briefing highlights follow:

- Focus areas: air carriers, general aviation and defense industry support.
 - Air carriers: commercial airline service is growing; both United and US Airways set records in January and February of this year.
 - General Aviation
 - Hangars are full
 - Fixed base operators (FBO = primary provider of services to general aviation aircraft and operators located at or adjacent to an airport)
 - Only one operational at this time - CareFlight
 - FBO Million Air opening in April 2010 - \$3 million project
 - World leader in military fuel sales
 - Possible support for and use of Omega Tanker –contracted air refueling services to Navy and Marine Corps; specializes in industry research and development

- West General Aviation area
 - Considerable investment to occur in development of new top quality pilot center
- Defense Industry Support
 - Yuma's one airfield is used by civilian and military
 - Civilian property
 - Military property – restricted and limited
 - Serving:
 - Marine Corps Air Station – Yuma (MCAS-Yuma)
 - Day-to-day operations
 - Joint Strike Fighter (JSF) F-35 deployment
 - Building support infrastructure
 - Initial operational capability
 - Maintain F-5 squadron; drawdown of AV-8
 - Add 6 squadrons of F-35B
 - Upgrade airport security
 - Add top secret capability
 - Long term support strategy
 - Anticipate Eglin F-35's to Yuma in 2010/2011
 - More VM-22 Osprey training
 - Possible foreign squadron F-35 training
 - Possible Miramar F-18/F-35 squadrons
 - Yuma Proving Ground (YPG)
- Investment
 - Military support infrastructure: \$10 million over last three years
 - Space for defense contractors problematic on military property, so YCA making room on its property with Defense Contractor Complex
 - National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) ramp reconstruction - \$2.5 million
 - Taxiway rehabilitation - \$3.2 million
 - JSF F-35 ramp \$3 million
 - Million gallon fuel farm
 - JSF F-35 contractor hangars - \$4 million project under development
 - Million Air FBO facility - \$3 million opening in April
 - NASA facility - \$2.5 million
 - Fed-Ex facility – to be operational October 2010 - \$2.5 million
 - Border Patrol facilities - \$10 million – under design
- Sustainability
 - Airport structure supports global supply network
 - Civilian land being used jointly by MCAS-Yuma
 - Operational deployment of JSF F-35
 - First in Yuma, later in Arizona, eventually, the world
 - Lessons start here
 - World-wide support starts here
 - Lockheed global parts distribution center

- Central location
- Security to military specifications
 - Controlled access inside fence; procedures mirror MCAS-Yuma specifications
 - DoN Video Analytics – providing perimeter security.
 - Exceeds Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) standards
- Designated Federal Trade Zone
- Jobs:
 - Over 1,000 subcontractors build the F-35 and all will need to provide local support personnel.
 - Yuma offers an available work force
 - Over 2,000 avionic and aircraft technicians at MCAS-Yuma
 - 50-100 technicians leave the military each month looking for work
 - YPG
 - Largest civilian employer in Yuma County
 - Over 3,000 technician and engineers
 - General Motors test track
 - Brought 175 trained technicians and engineers to Yuma region
 - Supported by Yuma County Education
 - Arizona Western College (AWC) and MCAS-Yuma have jointed developed training tailored to MCAS-Yuma's needs
 - Approved by American Council on Education
 - Flexible for student mission requirements
 - Systems Engineering Degree
 - Possible for area residents through cooperative efforts of:
 - Arizona Western College
 - Northern Arizona University
 - University of Arizona
 - Associate in Science
 - Engineering plus Occupational Certificate
 - Engineering Technology degree offered by AWC meets industry needs for technicians at YPG and General Motors
 - Yuma has a history of longstanding support for the military – since 1920; Yuma has become a retirement area for former military personnel.
 - Yuma has highest concentration of engineers in the State of Arizona

Discussion

- The City is aware that the entrance into this newly developed area of the airport needs improvement to bolster the community's image; the City would like to work toward making improvements in the City's rights-of-way.
 - Perhaps the issue could be addressed through the Clean and Beautiful Commission, as the commission has already expressed an interest in it.
- The construction work done over the last three years exclusively involved local construction and engineering firms; YCA works hard to use local talent whenever their guidelines permit them to do so.

- The pilot center will include an eating facility; however, it will not be undertaken until initial renovations are complete because of funding.
- MCAS-Yuma has military weapons storage and loading facilities on its property. MCAS-Yuma has enough space to handle its expansion in these areas. However, the existence of these hazardous areas and material precludes the development of new facilities near them; therefore, YCA is working to develop its land to accommodate new development.

IV. RECRUITMENT PROCESS FOR CITY ADMINISTRATOR

Dodd presented the following information:

- Human Resources anticipates it will take six months to fill this position
- Available, pre-approved executive recruiting agencies
 - Mercer Group, Inc. – New Mexico
 - Waters-Oldani Executive Recruitment Consulting - Texas
 - Slavin Management Consultants – Georgia with Phoenix office
- Recruitment agency steps
 - Develop position profile
 - Based on input
 - Develop brochures for distribution
 - Identify qualified candidates
 - Advertise position
 - Act as central depository of applications
 - Evaluate prospective candidates
 - Perform Initial screening of applicants
 - Refer selected group to City
 - Selection and employment
 - Perform background checks
 - Other selection criteria
 - Assist with final selection process
- Internal evaluation
 - City Council
 - Meet with recruiting agency to develop position profile
 - Screen candidates
 - Conduct final interview and selection
 - Community
 - Citizen group
 - Assist in developing position profile
 - Possible assistance in interviewing
 - Possible internet input
 - Employee – as directed by City Council

Discussion

- Costs for the use of a recruiting agency: \$20,000-25,000 plus expenses

V. ADDITIONAL ITEMS FOR POSSIBLE DISCUSSION

McClendon asked for a discussion of upcoming road closures in the 16th Street/Avenue A road project with information from ADOT and City Engineering.

Watson asked for the City Council's preference for a budget worksession next week; the consensus was for March 23, 2010 at 3:00 p.m.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT/EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Krieger adjourned the meeting to Executive Session at 5:40 p.m.

for Lynda L. Bushong, Deputy
Lynda L. Bushong, City Clerk

APPROVED:

Alan L. Krieger
Alan L. Krieger, Mayor

